

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 /064 W  
----- 099248

R 280955Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY DACCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5949

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DACCA 1086

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BG, E, OK, US

SUBJECT: BENGALIEE REACTION TO LIFTING OF SOUTH ASIA  
ARMS EMBARGO

1. BDG HAS MADE NO PUBLIC COMMENT ON ENDING OF EMBARGO ON SUPPLY OF ARMS TO INDIA AND PAKISTAN, AND IS UNLIKELY TO DO SO. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY REPRESENTATIONS, SENIOR FIGURES IN THE BDG HAVE VOICED A MEASURE OF CONCERN OVER THE POSSIBLE DESTABILIZING EFFECT OF THE CHANGE, BUT DID NOT LINGER ON THE MATTER. MOREOVER, WHATEVER VIEWS WITHIN BDG ON THE ISSUE MAY BE, WE THINK THEY CONCLUDE THAT HEALTHY US-BANGLADESH RELATIONS ARE FAR TOO IMPORTANT TO JEOPARDIZE BY MORALIZING ON THIS ISSUE.

2. THE PRESS HAS CARRIED THE STORIES STRAIGHT. THERE HAVE BEEN EDITORIALS CONDEMNING THE ACTION; HOWEVER, MORE FOUND THE ACTION "REGRETTABLE" FOR THE THREAT TO HARMONY IT COULD CREATE RATHER THAN AS A SURE CAUSE OF FURTHER INSTABILITY.

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3. INsofar AS PRIVATE VIEWS ARE CONCERNED, WE DETECT  
AMBIVALENCE OF A RATHER HIGH ORDER. THERE IS LITTLE  
PLEASURE IN SEEING PAKISTAN SCORE A DIPLOMATIC VICTORY,  
PARTICULARLY WHEN (IN BENGALIEE EYES) ISLAMABAD IS  
ACTING INTRANSIGENTLY TOWARD BANGLADESH. ON THE OTHER  
HAND, GIVEN THE UNEASY CHARACTER OF INDO-BANGALIEE  
RELATIONS, IT IS PERHAPS NOT UNPLEASANT TO SEE INDIA  
LOSING ONE AND REACTING, AT LEAST IN PUBLIC, IN RATHER  
SHRILL FASHING. MOVEOVER, WE SUSPECT THAT MANY  
BENGALIEES SHARE THE VIEW OF A BENGALIEE DIPLOMAT  
(REPORTED BY AMCONSUL CALCUTTA) THAT GIVEN INDIAN  
DOMINANCE IN SOUTH ASIA, SOME MEASURABLE STRENGTHENING  
OF PAKISTAN WILL ENHANCE REGIONAL STABILITY.  
BOSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ARMS SHIPMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975DACCA01086  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750072-0242  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK, US  
**To:** STATE  
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